

than 10 hours of our time debating whether or not we should tell committees to do what they are already supposed to be doing.

Lake County, in my district, has 19 percent unemployment rate.

The people of Lake County know that we are not creating jobs by telling committees to do their jobs.

The people in my district, who are waiting on banks to call them back about their loan modification applications, know that this debate will not help them keep their homes.

There is real work to be done in Congress and this is not it.

I think we can stipulate that there are regulations that are redundant and unnecessary.

I, for one, know that a regulation from Federal Housing Finance Agency has shut down the incredibly successful Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program.

PACE is an innovative program in my district, and districts across this country, that has created jobs, saved energy, and slashed homeowners' utility bills.

Spending 10 hours of debate on this meaningless resolution is not going to reinstate the PACE program.

It is not going to bring back the jobs for the people who installed residential solar panels and weatherized houses under PACE.

This resolution is a lot of talk and no action. Committees have oversight responsibilities; it would be a much better use of our time to have simply scheduled 10 hours of Committee hearings on the matter.

A TRIBUTE TO LES OESTERREICH, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Les Oesterreich, a resident of Dixon, California, a man respected as an American, a husband to Pat Oesterreich, a father to their combined seven daughters, and a grandfather. Perhaps more germane to this moment is his position as chairman emeritus of Superior Farms, the largest harvester and processor of lamb in the United States. Under his leadership, the company has grown from having a single plant in Dixon, California, to having plants in Denver, Colorado, Boston, Massachusetts, Hawarden, Iowa, and Blue Island, Illinois, with contractual arrangements in Australia as well. Today, Superior Farms employs 494 employees and operates under an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), so that every employee has a stake in the company's bottom line.

As CEO of Superior Farms, Mr. Oesterreich skillfully guided the company by working with other industry organizations. He was honored in 2008 by the American Sheep Industry Association with its Campender Award. He served several terms as a director of the National Meat Association, and as chair of its Small Stock Committee. He was recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture for his work with the Agricultural Marketing Service on the implementation of fair standards for lamb grading. He served on the Advisory Committee for the Animal Science Department

at California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo and the University of California at Davis. His input to the American Lamb Board and the California Sheep Commission has guided those organizations, and during all these activities he has guided the growth and prosperity of Superior Farms to ensure that he recruited the brightest and best professional management talent available.

Mr. Oesterreich's father worked for Armour Food Co. for 35 years and he learned a lot about the meat business during his formative years in Brownsville, Texas, and Sterling, Illinois. He started work in the slaughter facilities at age 16, then learned how to load trucks, and was finally trained in meat cutting, all at Armour. He joined Superior Farms in 1981 as general manager of the Dixon, California, facility and moved up the chain of management, by dint of hard work, to become its CEO in 2004.

Off the job, he has served as president of the local fire district in Dixon; he is passionate about cars and horses; and he is a member of the American Quarter Horse Association.

As Mr. Oesterreich moves into retirement, he leaves behind an incredible legacy to be continued by the professionals that he has recruited to Superior Farms. Men like Mr. Oesterreich make the United States of America a wonderful place to live. Congratulations, Les Oesterreich!

HONORING LOU ELLA ROBINSON- WELTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lou Ella Robinson-Welton. Ms. Welton was born to the late Reverend John D. (Doc) Robinson, a Baptist Minister, and Ella Jones-Robinson, a homemaker, on April 10, 1921, in Itta Bena, Mississippi. She was the youngest of six and is the only surviving member. Her siblings were Russell, Frank, Arie, and Seavon and Cleavon (twins). She was married to Sammie Lee Welton Senior, also from Itta Bena, Mississippi, for 41 years until his death in 1986. Sammie Sr. was a World War II Disabled Veteran, a Purple Heart Recipient, a Radio Technician, Printer, and Retired Mississippi Valley State University Laundry Technician. They have 5 children: Vernola, Arie Lue, Sammie Jr., Joyce, and Wanda, all graduates of Mississippi Valley State University. Lou Ella has 12 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Lou Ella Robinson Welton is an educator, community activist, and for 42 years, was a full-time teacher to generations of students in and around Leflore County, and is affectionately known throughout her community as "Miss Welton." Miss Welton began her career as a teacher/educator when she graduated high school, taking her first teaching job when she was 18. Public schools for African Americans in the early 1900s were rare, so her family sent her to private boarding schools. She was the first in her family to complete high school and the only one to graduate college.

She began her education in Humphreys County but the family moved back to Leflore

County after only several months. She attended school at the Saint John's Palo Alto and the Leflore County Training Schools in Itta Bena and graduated from the Stone Street School in Greenwood, Mississippi in 1941. She attended Rust College, and later Mississippi Vocational College, now Mississippi Valley State University, when it was little more than a dream in the eyes of its first president, Dr. James Herbert White. Attending Saturday and summer sessions, she and her husband, Sammie (vocational degree in printing), were among the first graduating class of 1953. She was the only sibling to graduate from college and is one of only two surviving members of the first Graduating Class of 1953 at Mississippi Vocational College in Itta Bena, Mississippi.

After receiving her B.S. degree in elementary education, Miss Welton taught in the Leflore County School System for over 42 years. She taught elementary education, special education, and migrant education with an emphasis on independent living, during her career. She has attended numerous training programs at universities around the country and received certificates in many academic areas related to teaching.

Miss Welton has also been active in her community and church where she has lived for the last 89 years. She was a member of the church choir, Sunday School teacher, Home Mission Society, and still serves as a Mother of the church. Miss Welton has been a member of the Goodwill Industrial Club, which she co-founded (a group of women who assisted needy families), The Cancer Network Control, Leflore County Homemakers, and the Mississippi Education Association.

Her other activities have included selling a variety of commodities in the community that included: Avon, Shaklee, Sarah Coventry, World Book Encyclopedia and Sewing for anyone who wanted something special. She made costumes for many years for the sororities and fraternities at Mississippi Valley State University.

She worked part-time at the Roses Department Store and the Spotless Cleaners in Itta Bena, Mississippi. She has mentored numerous students who still call and come by to maintain the friendships that were garnered many years ago. She has a good memory and likes to talk about the good old days to former students, family and friends. Miss Welton remains active by attending local functions, Adult Day Care, talking on the telephone, and keeping abreast of current events through the newspaper and television.

IN HONOR OF ANN SOLDO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ann Soldo, a generous community leader in California's Pajaro Valley and the first female mayor of Watsonville, California. Ann passed away at the age of 90 on January 24, 2011. She was an admired teacher that taught from the heart and touched the lives of thousands in the Pajaro Valley.

Born in Watsonville, California, on May 27, 1920, Ann received a bachelor's degree from